

A2
SUB
BIO
CENT

section includes at least two faceplate openings, one on each side of the common axis of the central section.

Please insert the following claims:

A3
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28. The patch panel according to claim 2, wherein the common axis of the central section is located at a midpoint of the central section.

29. The patch panel according to claim 21, wherein the common axis of the central section is located at a midpoint of the central section.

REMARKS

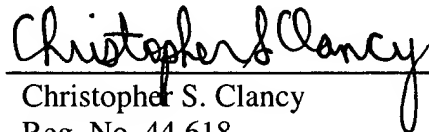
Claims 1-27 are pending in the present application. Applicants have amended claims 1-3 and 20-22, and added claims 28 and 29. Accordingly, claims 1-29 are now at issue. A marked-up version of the amended claims is provided on separate sheets.

Claims 1-3 and 20-22 have been amended to more clearly define the invention. These amendments are not considered to narrow the scope of the claims. In view of the remarks and amendments set forth above, Applicants respectfully request consideration of claims 1-29.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the \$36.00 fee for added dependent claims 28 and 29 to Deposit Account No. 16-0228.

Respectfully submitted,

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Marked-Up Version of the Amended Claims

1. (Amended) A patch panel mountable to a network rack, comprising:
a frame forming a central section and having a longitudinal width sized to fit within the network rack, a predefined height, a front side, and a rear side; and
rack mounting plates provided on opposite longitudinal ends of the central section,

wherein the central section is angled outwardly in an inverted V-shape, the central section having mountable thereon a plurality of cable connectors that receive cabling on the front side and the rear side of the patch panel frame[, the plurality of cable connectors when mounted being oriented to have rear surfaces thereof face a common axis of the central section].

2. (Amended) The patch panel according to claim 1, wherein the plurality of cable connectors when mounted being oriented to have rear surfaces thereof face a common axis of the central section [common axis of the central section is located at a midpoint of the central section].

3. (Amended) The patch panel according to claim 2 [1], wherein the frame includes at least one faceplate opening.

20. (Amended) A network rack and patch panel assembly, comprising:
a network rack having two rails spaced a predetermined distance from each other, each rail including spaced mounting openings; and
a patch panel mounted to the network rack, the patch panel including
a frame forming a central section and having a longitudinal width sized to fit between the two rails, a predefined height, a front side, and a rear side; and

rack mounting plates provided on opposite longitudinal ends of the central section connected to ones of the spaced mounting openings of the rails,

wherein the central section is angled outwardly in an inverted V-shape, the central section having mounted thereon a plurality of cable connectors that receive cabling on the front side and the rear side of the patch panel frame[, the plurality of cable connectors being oriented to have rear surfaces thereof face a common axis of the central section].

21. (Amended) The patch panel according to claim 20, wherein the plurality of cable connectors being oriented to have rear surfaces thereof face a common axis of the central section [common axis of the central section is located at a midpoint of the central section].

22. (Amended) The network rack and patch panel assembly of claim 21 [20], wherein the central section includes at least two faceplate openings, one on each side of the common axis of the central section.